

UUM RESEARCH TOPIC GUIDE

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UUM RESEARCH TOPIC GUIDE

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By

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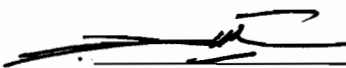
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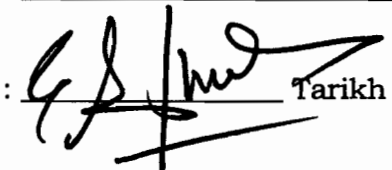
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ABSTRACT

Currently, e-learning can be considered as one of the most popular learning environments. This study seeks to design and develop an e-learning system which is called Research Topic Guide System (RTG) at University Utara Malaysia (UUM). Research topic can be as critical issue for student during starting their research. Therefore, lecturers or experts will be able to provide student by suggestion research topic to be as a pointer to start their research. Furthermore, UUM as a research-oriented university does not have in the existing e-learning system any platform that can be considered as research guide to meet students' needs. The existing e-learning system is generally deficient in constructing an open research environment; although it is more important to a research-oriented university. Hence, development research environment which it can be used as guide for student might help them to satisfy the suitable topic that is consistent with their interests. Mixed methodology and integrated general research methodology within research methodology are used to achieve the objectives of this study. The implementation is carried out with Java script and Mysql in order to develop the functions of RTG system. The result of usability testing shows that 65% of the participants found the system usable.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ICT	Information Communication Technology
UUM	Universiti Utara Malaysia
CAS	College of Art and Science
COB	College of Business
COLGIS	College of Law, Government and International Studies
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
DBA	Doctor of Business Administration
RTG	Research Topic Guide
SQL	Structured Query Language
RES	Research-oriented E- learning System
UTEP	University of Texas at El Paso
USC	University of Southern California
ISI	Information Sciences Institute
CS	Computer Science
CE	Computer Engineering
EE	Electric Engineering
IBM	International Business Machines
UML	Unified Modeling Language

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This chapter explains the background of research that will give the readers a brief discretion about the whole research topic background. Furthermore, this chapter views research problem, research questions that are formulated to be answered by the research objectives. Moreover, the scope of this study was carried out in order to be more clearly about the respondents and the environment that will be applied in this research. At the end of this chapter, this study explained the significant of research.

1.1 Background

Nowadays, Internet is one of the most popular communication tools; it is the most widely used in various areas such as education, commercial, social, communication, and learning. Internet can provide different things for different people (Preece, 2001). In addition, the Internet contains a lot of sites that can provide a lot of different online services including in learning and teaching, as well as enabling interaction between the vendors and users; which could be whether personal, government agencies or commercial organizations. According to Rosenberg (2001) added that the biggest growth in the internet and the area that will prove to be one of the biggest agents of change is e-learning.

The term e-learning has become one of the most popular modes in teaching. Information Communication Technologies (ICT) are utilized for most activates in

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